

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant appreciates allowance of claims 19-21 by the Examiner. The Examiner also indicates that claims 4, 5, 11, 12 and 17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant would like to point out that it previously added new claims 20 and 21, which include the combined subject matter of independent claim 1 and dependent claim 4, and the combined subject matter of independent claim 6 and dependent claim 11, respectively. Applicant has newly added claim 22, which includes the combined subject matter of independent claim 15 and dependent claim 17. As such, new claim 22 should also be allowable.

Further, Applicant has amended existing claims 2, 5, 7, 8, 12-14, 16 and 18 to depend from appropriate ones of claims 19-22. As claims 19-21 have been allowed, and new claim 22 is comprised of a combination of subject matter indicated as allowable by the Examiner, dependent claims 2, 5, 7, 8, 12-14, 16 and 18 should also be allowable. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 9-11, 15 and 17 have been canceled.

As a result of the foregoing amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly requested. If, however, the Examiner maintains the rejection, entry of the present amendment is respectfully requested as reducing the number of issues and placing this application in better condition for appeal.

Telephone inquiry to the undersigned in order to clarify or otherwise expedite allowance of the present application is respectfully encouraged.

Respectfully submitted,

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/Eric M. Gayan/

Eric M. Gayan
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 46,103
Standley Law Group LLP
495 Metro Place South
Suite 210
Dublin, Ohio 43017-5319
Telephone: (614) 792-5555
Facsimile: (614) 792-5536
E-mail: egayan@standleyllp.com